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Arban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1949.

ROBERT HEYWOOD WILSHAW,
M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

SHOREHAM-BY-SEA
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SHOREHAM-BY-SEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

10, Bulkington Avenue, Worthing.

June, 1950.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1949, which has been compiled in accordance with the requirements of Circular 2/50, issued by the Ministry of Health on the 25th January, 1950.

The rates for 1949 as compared with the average rate for the past ten years are as follows:—

Average, 1939–48.	1949.
Birth Rate per 1,000 population 17.7	16.5
Death Rate per 1,000 population 11.6	12.7
Corrected Death Rate	11.7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000	
Births 40	29

These rates have been calculated on the estimated resident population for the mid-year 1949, supplied to me by the Registrar General.

The Corrected Death Rate (11.7) is obtained by multiplying the uncorrected rate by the factor of correction for Shoreham-by-Sea U.D., viz., 0.92. The corrected death rate represents what the death rate for Shoreham-by-Sea U.D. would be if the population contained proportionately the same number of males and females in each of the age groups as enumeration in the 1931 census revealed in England and Wales as a whole. The factor of correction being less than 1, indicates that the population of Shoreham-by-Sea U.D. consists of a larger proportion of people at the ages at which death is more likely to occur than does the population of England and Wales as a whole.

The various mortality rates of the district during the past year as compared with the corresponding rates for England and Wales and the urban and rural districts of West Sussex are shown in a comparative table on page 3.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROBERT HEYWOOD WILSHAW.

To the Chairman and Members of the Shoreham-by-Sea Urban District Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR A. F. HOOPER.

COUNCILLOR W. BATTEN (Chairman of Council).

- F. E. BATTEN.
- ,, F. S. LANGMAID.
- ,, A. S. MACE.
- " J. E. JAGGER.
- " W. A. WATSON.

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

R. HEYWOOD-WILSHAW, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:

J. W. THURMAN, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (Food Cert.)

Clerical Staff:
J. F. Kemp.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Shoreham is situate on the South Coast, midway between Brighton and Worthing. The River Adur, flowing down from Bramber to the South, bounds the town on its west side, and then winding under the Norfolk Bridge flows eastwards, until it again turns southwards to enter the sea through Shoreham Harbour mouth at Kingston. In this way the river cuts off from Shoreham Town the shingle beach south of the Adur, known as Shoreham Beach. This shingle beach is within the Urban District of Shoreham-by-Sea.

The town possesses a public recreation area, Buckingham Park, comprising 38 acres. It is situate at the foot of the Downs north of the town, and is used as a public park and pleasure ground, available for general sports and recreation purposes.

The chief industries in the town are a Soap Works, Jam Factory, Yacht Building, Chemical Works, Timber Yards, Laundries.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres), 3,093.

Resident Population (1949) estimated by Registrar General, 12,480.

Population (1931) Census, 8,757.

Rateable value (1949), £119, 111.

Sum represented by 1d. rate, £480.

No. of inhabited houses end of 1949 according to rate books, 3,658.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births—Legitimate, total 197 (106 males, 91 females); illegitimate 9 (6 males, 3 females). Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population, 16.5.

Stillbirths, 4 (2 males, 2 females). Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 19.04.

Deaths, 159 (90 males, 69 females). Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 12.7.

Death from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth: From sepsis, None. From other causes, None.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :-

All Infants per 1,000 live births, 29.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births, 25.

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births, 111.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages), 27.

- " ,, Measles (all ages), None.
- " " Whooping Cough (all ages), None.
- " " Diarrhœa (under 2 years), None.

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the past year.

Comparative Statistics.

	I	England and	West S		Shoreham
Dist. D.		Wales	Urban	Rural	U.D.
Birth Rate	• • •	16.7	13.6	16.2	16.5
Death Rate	* * •	11.7	14.9	12.5	12.7
Infantile Death Rate	ەن ھىر ھ	32	25	28	29
Pulmonary Tuberculo	osis				
Death Rate	• • •	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2
Zymotic Death Rate	• • •		0.02	0.01	0.0
Cancer Death Rate	• • •	1.9	2.6	2.2	2.2
Maternity Mortality per 1,000 births	Rate	0.98	0.8	1.2	0.0
Scarlet Fever — Incident Rate per 1,000 po					0.0
tion , ,		-	-		0.1
Diphtheria—Incidence	Rate				
per 1,000 population			ellern dy standard grant (,	0.0
Enteric Fever — Incid					
Rate per 1,000 popul	ation			Married State Control of the Control	0.0

INFANTILE MORTALITY

The causes of death and the ages of the six children who died under one year of age are as follows:—

um	act one year or age are as refresher		_
	Cause of Death	Age	Sex
1.	Prematurity	2 days	M.
2.	Asphyxia caused by strangulation. Murder		
	by person or persons unknown. Inquest	A few hours	M.
3.	Broncho-pneumonia	4 months	M.
4.	Asphyxia: Enlarged thymus gland	13 hours	M.
5.	Meconium Ileus-Volvulus: Cystic fibrosis		-
	of pancreas	3 days	F.
6.	Prematurity	1 hour	F.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

Since the National Health Service Act came into force on July 5th, 1948, the following services are the responsibility of the Local Health Authority, which is the West Sussex County Council.

The Care of Mothers and Young Children.

Domiciliary Midwifery.

Health Visiting. Home Nursing.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.

Home Help. Mental Health.

Ambulance and Hospital Car Service.

Vaccination against Smallpox.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

I. Local Health Authority Services.

Nursing.

General District Nurses, Midwives, Health Visitors and School Nurses are employed by the County Council to serve in the area.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The West Sussex County Council conduct a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre at the Shoreham Health Centre, Middle Road, twice weekly. The West Sussex County Council also conduct an Ante-Natal Clinic at these premises fortnightly.

Day Nurseries.

There is no day nursery in the district.

School Clinics.

School Clinics are held twice weekly at the Health Centre, to which all school children can be sent. A Medical Officer attends weekly.

Eye Clinics, Dental Clinics and Speech Therapy Clinics are

held at the new Health Centre, Middle Road.

Children suffering from enlarged tonsils and adenoids are treated at the Brighton Throat and Ear Hospital, under arrangements made by the West Sussex County Education Committee.

Orthopaedic Clinics are held at the Lancing Health Centre.

Tuberculosis Clinic.

A Tuberculosis Clinic is held once a week at Southlands Hospital.

Venereal Diseases.

The West Sussex County Council have made arrangements entitling residents in the district to attend the Clinics for Venereal Diseases held at Worthing Hospital.

Ambulance Service.

Acting as agents for the County Council, the St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society operate the Ambulance and Hospital Car Service in the County. Calls for an ambulance are made through the doctor or nurse in attendance on the case, or through the Police.

Lists showing names and addresses of midwives, health visitors and general nurses may be seen at County Libraries, Town Halls or Offices of Local District Councils, and the Public Health Department, County Hall, Chichester. Information as to the situation of clinics and times of sessions may be obtained from the same sources, or from the local midwife, health visitor or general nurse.

II. Hospital and Specialist Services.

A comprehensive hospital and specialist service is provided by the Regional Hospital Board. Doctors can arrange whatever forms of treatment are needed for their patients in general or special hospitals, whether as in-patients or out-patients. Hospital accommodation of a private nature is available in certain circumstances subject to appropriate charges. All types of cases are thus provided for—medical, surgical, maternity, infectious diseases, and those requiring sanatorium or mental hospital treatment.

The Worthing Group Hospitals comprise Worthing, Southlands, Swandean, Littlehampton and Arundel Hospitals; Zachary Merton Maternity Home, Rustington, and certain Convalescent Homes.

III. General Medical and Dental Services.

Everyone is entitled as part of the arrangements for the National Health Service to general medical care, and dental care when this can be arranged, to receive necessary medicines and appliances, and to be supplied with glasses if necessary. Local arrangements for these services are organised through the National Health Service Executive Council for West Sussex, 63, South Street, Chichester.

Legislation in Force.

No Local Acts, Special Orders, General Adoptive Acts or Byelaws relating to the public health have come into force during 1949.

LABORATORY WORK.

No use has been made of the facilities for the examination of pathological specimens.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

The Public Health Staff consists of the Medical Officer and the Sanitary Inspector (Mr. J. W. Thurman), who also acts as Sanitary Inspector to the New Shoreham Port Health Authority.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table shows the total notifications received during

the year.		Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever		7	4	
Measles	• • •	57	_	
Puerperal Pyrexia	• • F	2†	2	10
Pneumonia		5		10
Chickenpox		4	_	
Whooping Cough		65	——————————————————————————————————————	7

† These two cases were in-patients at Southlands Hospital.

The above figures include notifications relating to Shoreham residents notified from Southlands Hospital, but do not include notifications received from Southlands Hospital in respect of persons admitted from other districts, or persons who are on the nursing staff, or who are permanent inmates of the institution or in the Children's Homes. In respect of these, the following notifications were received:—

Pneumonia 4, Puerperal Pyrexia 24, Scarlet Fever 2, Measles 11,

Polioencephalitis 1.

Scarlet Fever.

The nine cases of Scarlet Fever occurred during the year as follows:—

 Jan.
 Mar.
 June
 Sept.
 Oct.
 Dec.

 1
 2
 1
 1
 1
 3

Diphtheria.

No case was notified during the year.

Poliomyelitis.

No case was notified during the year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

No case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified during the year.

Note.—The ages of all the cases notified were as follows:— Under 1 year 1-2 2-3 3-4 4-5 5-10 10-15 15-20 20-35 35-45 45-65 65 Scarlet Fever — 6 11 7 17 25 Measles ... — — — — — 4 — 3 Pneumonia ... $\dots - - - - - 2 \quad 17 \quad 6 \quad 1$ Puerperial Pyrexia ... 7 7 6 9 6 25 5 — Whooping Cough ... - - 1 - - 3 - -Chickenpox ... Polioencephalitis

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Diphtheria Immunisation has again been carried out during the year by the County Council. At the end of the year the position was as follows:—

		Estimated population	Total number of children
77 5 77		mid year 1949	immunised
Under 5 years of age	0 9 0	1146	401
5-14 years of age	• • •	1796	1166

In addition, 66 children received a third reinforcing dose during the year.

Scabies.

No cases of scabies were brought to the notice of the Health Department during the year.

Food Poisoning.

No case of food poisoning was notified during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS-New Cases and Mortality, 1949

	Tiew Cases and Wortanty, 1343									
4		New Cases				De	Deaths			
Age			No	on-			N	on-		
Period		ratory	Respin	ratory	Respir	ratory	Respi	ratory		
	<i>M</i> .	F.	М.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
0				_		-				
1	1									
5	1		1							
10					_					
15	2	2		-						
20	1	_		_						
25		1	-		1					
35	1	1								
45		—	—							
55	1				_	_				
65 and										
upwards	1		_		_	1	-			
Totals	8	4	1		1 1	1		_		

No person died from Tuberculosis who had not been notified in the district during life.

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS, 1925.

It has not been necessary to serve any notice under these Regulations, which prevent persons suffering from Tuberculosis taking part in the production of Milk.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. Section 172.

No action has had to be taken by the Council under this Section, which gives power to Sanitary Authorities to apply in special cases for a Magistrate's Order for the removal of Tuberculous persons to an institution for isolation.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

(1) Water.

There is an abundant supply of pure water from the Brighton Corporation. The supply is constant and all the houses in the area are served direct. The water is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action. One sample was sent for bacteriological examination during the year and was found to be satisfactory.

Extensions of public water supplies during the year:

11 - F	* *	_		4	- •	•
Downsway	• • •	• • •	208	yds.	6-1n.	main.
Dolphin Road		• • •	63	yds.	4-in.	main.
Stoney Lane Housing Site				_		main.
Stoney Lane Camp Site	• • •	• • •	145	yus.	7-111.	main.

(2) Public Scavenging.

(a) House Refuse.

House refuse is removed weekly by the Council with direct labour. The refuse is disposed of by the controlled tipping method and is collected in a mechanical freighter.

(b) Sewers.

There have been no important extensions of sewers during the year. An extension of the 6-in. sewer has been made to pick up eight houses in Kingston Lane previously sewered by the Joint Board's sewerage system.

(c) Cesspools.

Cesspools and septic tanks situate in areas where sewers are not available are emptied by the Council with a mechanical cesspool emptier, and the sewage disposed of at the sewage works. A charge is made for this service in certain defined areas.

Rivers and Streams.

It has not been necessary to take any action to check the pollution of the river.

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1949

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

				With State under How	
			Private	By the Local	By other bodies
Name of Parish		Total	Enterprise	Authority	or persons
Shoreham-by-Sea		12	$1\overline{2}$		
Kingston-by-Sea	• • •	68	12	56	
	_	80	24	56	

1.—Inspection of Dwening-houses during the year:—	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing	
Acts)	197
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	717
 (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 	15 79
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	78
2.—Remedies of defects during the year without service of formal notice:—	
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	87
3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year:— A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	0
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:— (1) Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	6
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:— (a) By Owners	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	2

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing	
Act, 1936:— (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which	
Demolition Orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936	0
E.—Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding— (a) i. No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the	
year	6
ii. No. of families dwelling therein	10
iii. No. of persons dwelling therein	49
(b) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported	
during the year	4
(c) i. No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during	7
the year	35
ii. No. of persons concerned in such cases	55
No action has been taken under the above Section during the year. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.	
Milk Supply, Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.	
No. of Dairymen (Cowkeepers and Milk Sellers, etc.) in the	6
District	2
No. of these registered as Wholesalers only	4
No. of these registered as Retailers only	0
No. of these registered both as Wholesalers and Retailers	1
No. registered to sell milk from premises in other districts	1
No. of Inspections made:—	15
(1) Cowsheds	15
(2) Milkshops	30
Inspections during milking	11
No. of contraventions of the Regulations found	
All cowsheds and milkshops in the District are supplied water from the public main.	with

Licences.						
Licences granted by the (1) To produce T	he Coun	ty Counci n-Tested	l :— Milk			0
(2) To produce A				• • •	• • •	2
Licences granted by the To retail milk using the contract of t	he Local	Authority	7 :— n :—	• • •	* * *	2
(a) Tuberculi			• • •	• • •		5
(b) Accredite	d	• • •	• • •	• • •		0
(c) Pasteurise	d	• •••	• • •	• • •		5
Legal Proceedings. No. of summonses iss	ued unde	er the Reg	gulation	ns	• • •	0
Bacteriological Samples	of Mil	k.				
Ву	No. of sam		No. cor with st	mplying tandard	No. faili comp with star	oly ndard
Pasteurised	29	0	2	24	5	
Meat and other Foods. No. of slaughterhouses						1
No. of inspections of sl			6 6 6	• • •	• • •	1
No. of inspections of b	_		• • •	• • •	• • •	32
No. of inspections of ve			• • •	• • •	* * *	12
No. of inspections of o			• • •	• • •	• • •	174
No. of contraventions f			• • •	• • •	• • •	7
No. of contraventions r			•••	• • •	• • •	6
Ice Cream.					•••	
No. of premises registe					n	3
No. of premises registe	red for s	ale of ice	cream	• • •	• • •	24
Bakehouses.						
No. in the district		• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	1
No. underground	• • • • • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	0
*	• • • • • • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	6
No. of contraventions for	ound	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	0
Chall Eigh						

Shell Fish.

There are no shell-fish beds or layings in the district.

Condemned Foods.

A number of parcels of food were condemned as unfit and voluntarily surrendered.

Shops Act.

No. of shops in the district	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	243
No. of inspections						
No. of defects found						
No. of defects remedied	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	0

No applications were made under Section 10 (6) for exemption certificates.

Factories' Act, 1937.

I.—Inspections.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
 (i) Factories in which Sections 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities Exactories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority 	38	35	2	
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	0		
Total	. 70	46	2	

2.—Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Numbe Found	er of cases were for Remcdied	ound	rred By H.M.	cases in which prosecutions were			
Sanitary Conveniences— (a) Insufficient (b) Unsuitable or de-	1	1						
fective (c) Not separate for sexes Other Offences	$\frac{1}{2}$							
Total	4	3						

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

No. of inspections 61

Numerous contraventions have been observed for which remedial schemes have been prepared and submitted to the Council for licensing in accordance with Section 269 cf the Public Health Act, 1936. These proposals have not been accepted.

Camping Sites.

No. of sites in the area which were used for camping purposes during 1949	3
Public Health Act, 1936	4
Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the	
area at one time during the summer season, 1949	100
Smoke Abatement.	
No. of observations made	224
No. of notices served	9
No. of nuisances abated	9
- 10. 01 Indicated abated	9
Eradication of Bed Bugs.	
1. No. of Council Houses—	
(a) Found to be infested	0
(b) Disinfested	0
	U
2. No. of other houses—	
(a) Found to be infested	3
(b) Disinfested	3
Infested houses are gassed or treated with liquid insecti	cides,

Infested houses are gassed or treated with liquid insecticides, according to circumstances.

The houses and furniture of prospective tenants of Council houses are examined for the presence of vermin, and, if necessary, are treated as above.

Schools.

No. of schools in the district	• • •	• • •	• • •		6
No. with public water supply	• • •	• • •	• • •		6
No. with water closets—				•••	
(a) Separate pedestal	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	1
(h) Trough		• • •			2
(b) 110ugn					\mathcal{L}

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act.

Ninety-three complaints have been received in respect of rats and mice and 2,037 visits have been made to 179 premises. The work of rodent destruction is carried out in accordance with the procedure recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and a part-time Rodent Operator is engaged on this work in suitable instances. An estimated number of 1,570 rats have been destroyed during these operations which have included thorough treatment of the Council's refuse tip. A test of 10 per cent. of the manholes on the Council's sewers was carried out early in the year, followed by a treatment of one section in which "takes" had been recorded, which resulted in an estimated kill of 14 rats. In October a further treatment of this section was undertaken when approximately 15 rats were killed. A free service is given to occupiers of private dwelling houses.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK AND IMPROVEMENTS.

Defects Remedied and Nuisances Abated.

Rooms renovated		• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	12
Roofs repaired	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	27
Windows repaired	• • •	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	50
Windows made to ope	en		• • •	• • •		• • •	4
Walls and ceilings rep		• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	26
Damps walls treated	• • •	•••	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	14
Doors repaired or rene	ewed	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •		6
Floors repaired	•••	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •		7
Firegrates repaired or	renewe	ed	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	2
Sinks repaired or rene		• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	4
Sink provided	• • •			• • •	• • •		1
Spouting provided or	repaire	ed	• • •	• • •		• • •	9
Water pipes repaired	•••	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	6
Dustbins provided	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •		• • •	12
Drains reconstructed		• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	2
Drains cleansed	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •			25
Drains repaired		• • •	• • •		• • •	• • •	8
Cesspools abolished		•••	•••			• • •	2
Pail closets converted	to W.C	Cs.	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	4
W.Cs. provided	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •		2
W.Cs. repaired	• • •	• • •	• • •		• • •		20
Overcrowding abated	• • •	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	7
Accumulations remov	red	• • •		• • •	• • •		30
Smoke and dust	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	9.
2 2 1 11		• • •		• • •			32

							321
		~ C	. 5	•			105
No. of inspections with re	_				• • •	• • •	125
No. of premises disinfected after Infectious Disease 20							
No. of verminous premise			• • •				5
Total number of inspectio		3	,850				
Total number of notices s			5				110
	• • •			• • •	• • •	• • •	115
Statutory				• • •	• • •	• • •	6
Total number of summonses issued						• • •	0
Total number of convictions obtained						• • •	0
Complaints received					• • •	• • •	386
Complaints found justified and dealt with 37							371







